

7th Grade Social Studies Syllabus

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Resources

- Georgia 7th Grade Student Workbook (World History): Africa, Southwest Asia (Middle East), Southern and Eastern Asia

<http://www.georgiacurriculum.com/> (The book can be ordered, ISBN: 978-0-635-06713-5, or you can subscribe online)

- Rand McNally Classroom <http://education.randmcnally.com/classroom/startApp.do>
- PbWorks, Scribd, YouTube, Prezi, SlideShare, LiveBinders, Voicethread, Glogster, Wikispaces, and Jing. You do not need to open all accounts now, but it is advised that you keep all usernames and passwords where you can easily access them. You will be notified during class discussion as to when to open certain accounts. The delivery of course content will occur within a class pbworks page.
- Other resources include the CIA World Factbook, Google Earth, Discovery Education videos (United Streaming), and other iPad applications to be used during class meeting times (hybrid format).

Goal: The purpose of this course is for all students to meet and exceed the Georgia 7th grade social studies Criterion Referenced Competency Test.

Objectives

- Students will understand and explain the geography, environment, culture, history, economic systems, civics and governments Africa, Southwest Asia (Middle East), and Southern and Eastern Asia according to the [Georgia Performance Standards](#).
- Students will define and analyze the ten themes of the [National Council for the Social Studies](#) (NCSS):
 - Culture
 - Time, Continuity, and Change
 - People, Places, and Environments
 - Individual Development and Identity
 - Individuals, Groups, and Institutions
 - Power, Authority, and Governance
 - Production, Distribution, and Consumption
 - Science, Technology, and Society
 - Global Connections
 - Civic Ideals and Practices
- Students will apply technology skills in a way that is consistent with the guidelines of digital citizenship and [ISTE's NETS for Students](#).

Assessments

- All assignments will be completed individually. If a student would like to work with a partner or partners, one assignment or project must be submitted for each participant. An additional reflection will be required to clarify each group member's contribution.
- Assessments will be given in the form of quizzes, tests, and projects. Rubrics will be used to evaluate the quality of one's project based on the individuals learning strengths and weaknesses.
- Student participation in discussions is required in the form of either questions posed to the group and instructor. Students who can accurately answer another student's question will get credit for participation. Students may participate by contributing insightful comments that enhance the discussion.

Instructor and Student Interaction Expectations

- Students are expected to check in every day to complete class requirements for the day. The class is mostly asynchronous to provide for flexible scheduling and for the needs of students. There will be some hybrid occurrences, however, that require attendance to participate in a teacher or student presentation. Details specific to those dates will be addressed at that time.
- Guidelines of digital etiquette are to be adhered to in all communications, which include all chats, emails, and discussion postings. Students are expected to behave in a responsible and professional manner. The consequence for violation of this will be one verbal warning and then dismissal from the course.
- Be positive, encouraging, and recognize the talents and abilities in each other. We are a learning community and will grow together when everyone is bringing their best.

Learner Guidance

- Do your best to keep up with the work on a daily basis. If something comes up that prevents you from being in attendance or completing course requirements, submit a written reason and how you plan to make up the work in a timely manner. I can be flexible, as long as this type of situation is the exception and not the rule.
- If you have questions feel free to email or Skype during office hours (Monday-Friday from 1:00-2:00 or 3:30-4:00)

Grading System

The grading scale is as follows:

- A 90-100
- B 80-89
- C 75-79
- D 70-74
- F 69 or below

10 points will be deducted for each day an assignment is late. Exceptions can be made depending on the circumstances.

Academic Honesty

Academic honesty is expected from all students. Copyright and fair use guidelines should be followed at all times. If it isn't yours, give credit where it is due! Any student caught plagiarizing will not receive credit for that assignment. If there is a second offense, the student will be dismissed from the course. We are all human beings who have something valuable to contribute, so synthesize the material and make it yours!

Class Organization

As mentioned above, most learning modules are asynchronous with the exception of presentations that will be made. Your online projects will be presented as a culminating task for each unit. You may choose to work individually or in groups. The course material will be set up to work on a module everyday. Reading, assignments, and activities may be shorter on some days and longer on others, but generally it shouldn't last more than 70 minutes maximum. Assignments will be submitted by 11:59 on the due date. I'm looking forward to working with you and learning together.